

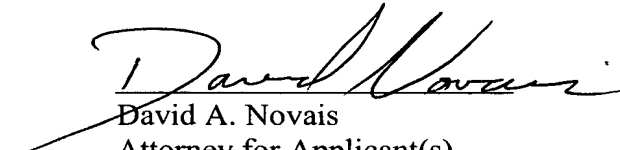
REMARKS

In the Office Action of August 11, 2004, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-15 are allowable. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 1-15.

Based on the above, the present amendment cancels the non-elected claims 16-45, without prejudice. Applicants maintain the right to pursue these claims by way of a divisional application.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice of allowability is therefore requested

Respectfully submitted,


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